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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/687,503 Confirmation No: 9046
Applicant : Kevin Doll et al. Filed : October 15, 2003
TC/A.U.: 3721 Examiner : Gloria R. Weeks
Docket No.: END0887USCIP1 Customer No.: 000027777

Title : **SURGICAL STAPLING INSTRUMENT HAVING A SINGLE
LOCKOUT MECHANISM FOR PREVENTION OF FIRING**

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 2231-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the
United States Patent And Trademarks Office.

/Kimberly L. Moses/

Kimberly M. Moses

Date: April 18, 2005

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office action of February 24, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begins on page ____ of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.